



Leading the British Government's fight against world poverty



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27 April 2010

Ms Miriam Rose

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Dear Ms Rose

Freedom of Information Requests F2010-107

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 8 April 2010 in which you asked for the following information

"A copy of the document "Orissa Drivers of Change" report, UK Department for International Development, India (2005-2006). The report was carried out by GHK."

I can confirm that DFID holds a copy of this report. However we are withholding it under Section 27 (1) (a), (c) and (d) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In applying this exemption we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosing it.

Factors in favour of disclosure include the general public interest in transparency and in raising awareness and understanding of how DFID works at a country level and how we aim to engage with partner governments and international organisations.

Factors against disclosure include the strong public interest in ensuring that DFID and the UK Government are able to promote international development and protect UK interests abroad. To do this there must be good working relationships with these other governments based on confidence and trust. Disclosing opinions and sensitive information relating to them would be likely to damage these relationships; harm DFID's ability to work with and influence other donors in eradicating poverty and undermine the UK's ability to respond to international development needs.

We have concluded that the balance of public interest in this case favours withholding the information.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me, quoting the appropriate reference number F2010-107.



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The Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

John McGinn
Openness Unit